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Course offers alternative route to college credit

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The University of
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NEWS RELEASE

Jan. 25, 2007

Contact: Nicky Phear, Wilderness Institute, 406-243-6932, nicky.phear@cfc.umt.edu.

COURSE OFFERS ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO COLLEGE CREDIT

MISSOULA—

University of Montana students have the opportunity to learn and earn college credit this summer while traveling through Big Sky Country on bicycles.

Cycle Montana: Energy Alternatives for a New Century is a self-propelled adventure to explore the future of energy production and climate change in the Rocky Mountain West. The course will take place from May 27 to June 18. UM students who complete the course will earn three 300-level credits in environmental studies.

While traveling 750 miles, students will get a unique perspective of how Montana's fertile agricultural plains, wind and sunshine may provide alternative opportunities for producing clean energy. They will visit wind, biodiesel, solar and geothermal energy projects.

The route takes the class from **Billings** to coalfields and farms of southeastern Montana, then weaves west between island mountain ranges. After a stop in **Helena**, riders will turn north along the Rocky Mountain Front before heading up and over Logan Pass in Glacier National Park. The class ends in **Missoula**, where students will make presentations to community leaders and local and regional politicians.

To take the course, students will need a touring bike and \$2,375 for tuition. The early application deadline is Tuesday, March 20. The course is limited to 10 students and is

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multidisciplinary. Students of all majors may apply.

For more information, call the Wild Rockies Field Institute at 406-549-4336 or Nicky Phear of UM's Wilderness Institute at 406-243-6932. Information also is online at <http://www.wrfi.net/courses/cyclemontana.html>.

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